

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT BALTSUN EDITORIAL, THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 23, TITLED "100 MINUTES WITH MAO."

2. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S 100 MINUTES WITH
CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG PROVE THAT CHINA'S LEADER IS ALIVE
AND ALERT, THAT PEKING STILL WANTS WORKING RELATIONS WITH
WASHINGTON AND THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S PLAN TO VISIT CHINA
IS STILL ON. BUT UNLESS AN EXTRAORDINARY VOLUME OF INFOR-
MATION SOON BECOMES PUBLIC, ANY MORE DETAILED CONCLUSIONS
WOULD AMOUNT TO THE PUREST SPECULATION. NEITHER THE
MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN MAO NOR ANY OTHER PUBLICIZED EVENT
OF MR. KISSINGER'S TRIP TO PEKING GIVES ANY CLUES TO, FOR
EXAMPLE, EFFORTS TOWARD FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. FIRM-
ER, AND GLOOMIER, CONCLUSIONS MIGHT HAVE BEEN IN ORDER ;AD
THE 81-YEAR-OLD CHAIRMAN FAILED TO SHOW MR. KISSINGER
HOSPITALITY COMPARABLE TO THAT EXTENDED ON EARLIER VISITS.
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3. THE TRIP HAS BOLDLY UNDERSCORED THE REALITY THAT CHINESE-AMERICAN RELATIONSHINGE LESS ON THE TWO COUNTRIES' BILATERAL AFFAIRS THAN ON THEIR RESPECTIVE STANCES TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION. PEKING-WASHINGTON RELATIONSWILL BE

MUTUALLY CONVENIENT AT LEAST SO LONG AS CHINA HAS A LEADERSHIP AS SUSPICIOUSOF MOSCOW AS CHAIRMAN MAO AND PREMIER CHOU ARE TODAY. EVEN THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN MILITARY MEN STILL ON TAIWAN, THREE YEARS AFTER THE NIXON-CHOU SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE PROMISED THEIR ULTIMATE WITHDRAWAL, PROVOKED NO PUBLIC COMMENTS. INSTEAD, FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA REASSURED THE AMERICANS THAT, "ON THE WHOLE, CHINESE-UNITED STATES RELATIONS HAVE MOVED FORWARD IN THE LAST FEW YEARS." HIS MAJOR CRITICISM WAS OF THE FLIRTATION BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON THAT PEKING INEVITABLY SEES IN DETENTE. THE CHINESE, WHO REGULARLY DENOUNCE THE "COLLUDING AND CON-TENDING" BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN SUPERPOWERS, APPEAR TO BE MORE CONCERNED RIGHT NOW WITH COLLUDING THAN WITH CONTENDING.

4. WHAT IS LESS CLEAR IS WHETHER FUTURE CHINESE LEADERS WILL BE EQUALLY HOSTILE TOMOSCOW--AND HENCE EQUALLY EAGER TO COOPERATE WITH WASHINGTON. THE CURRENT CHINESE LEADERSHIP'S ATTITUDE TOWARD MOSCOW REPRESENTS THE MOST RELIABLE OPPORTUNITY LIKELY FOR SOME TIME TO COMPLETE FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA. WHETHER THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THAT CHANCE WILL NOT BECOME CLEAR AT LEAST UNTIL THE PRESIDENT GOES TO PEKING. AND GIVEN MR. FORD'S CONCERN FOR HIS RIGHT FLANK WITHIN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, WHERE THE TAIWAN LOBBY STILL HAS SOME CLOUT, AMERICANS MAY NOT FIND OUT WHAT IS NOW BEING NEGOTIATED UNTIL AFTER THE REPUB-LICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, AND MAYBE NOT UNTIL AFTER NEXT YEAR'S ELECTION. (END TEXT) INGERSOLL

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